



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of California*

*501 I Street, Suite 10-100
Sacramento, California 95814*

*916/554-2700
Fax 916/554-2900*

For Immediate Release
October 24, 2001

**STOCKTON MAN INDICTED FOR THREATENING
WITNESSES IN FEDERAL INVESTIGATION**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney John K. Vincent announced today that a Federal Grand Jury in Sacramento returned an indictment charging HENRY MAURICE HUNTER, 30, of Stockton, California with two counts of retaliating against witnesses. The indictment specifically charges that on October 9, 2001, HUNTER physically threatened two individuals who had provided information to law enforcement about possible tax fraud and false claims offenses committed by HUNTER. If convicted, HUNTER faces a maximum sentence of ten years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine on each count.

The charges in the indictment are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James P. Arguelles and was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division.

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